



RMC Winter Executive Board & Annual Meeting Minutes

Date and Time: December 11, 2019 7pm to 9pm

Location: DoubleTree Hilton, Annapolis, MD 21401

Participants: Gary Allen, Bob Arnold, Chris Benzing, Elizabeth Chung, Amanda Clevenger, Megan D'Arcy, Charlotte Davis, Cheryl DeBerry, Brandi Dillon, Sandra Edwards, Patricia Eleazer, Bruce England, Margaret Frothingham, Kurt Fuchs, Yvonne Golczewski, Santo Grande, Leslie Hart, Craig Hartstock, John Hartline, John Hickman, Beth Hill, The Honorable Sheree Sample-Hughes, Janice Keene, Francis Kinnamon, Cherie Krug, Denise Lovelady, Errol Mattox, The Honorable Mike McKay, Steve McHenry, Jennifer Mindte, Don Mulrine, Dr. Maureen Murphy, Gregory Padgham, Janice Palmer, The Honorable Douglas Peters, Alice Settle-Raskin, Ira Russell, Renee Sheehy, Cassie Shirk, Ryan Snow, Terri Springel, Richard Starr, Cindy Stone, Matt Teffeau, Tony Thakur, Mike Thielke, Scott Travers, Cassandra Vanhooser, Bill Valentine, Rosanna Vogt, Lucille Walker, Scott Warner, Kathy Whaley, Annette Williams, Julie Woepke, Pam Wise, Duane Yoder.

Welcome and Agenda Overview

The meeting began at 7pm with a welcome and overview by Chair, Scott Warner. Participants introduced themselves by name and affiliation. Dinner was served while the meeting took place.

Meeting Minutes

RMC Executive Board Meeting Minutes from September 27, 2019 were presented. Errol Mattox moved to accept the minutes: Steve McHenry seconded and minutes were approved.

Financial

Financial FY2020 budget was reported by Executive Director, Charlotte Davis and approved by members. The general fund revenues were the same as in FY19 budget. The expenditures for FY20 increased \$96,739.00 from FY19, and this was mainly due to increase in health insurance (current and retiree), employee pension, and professional development. Errol Mattox moved to accept the financial report and Matt Teffeau seconded, financial report was accepted.

Board and Committee Reports

Matt Teffeau, Co-chair of the Rural Maryland Prosperity Investment Fund reported on the FY2020 MAERDAF/RMPIF grants and awards. Charlotte Davis reported that the Legislative Committee met on October 28th in person and their next meeting in on January 6th via conference call. Errol Mattox, Agriculture Committee Chair, provided an update on the committee and Mike Thielke, Committee Chair, provided updates on the RMC Strategic Planning-draft one of plan was included in the meeting handouts.

Rural Maryland Foundation Update

Charlotte Davis, Executive Director updated the members on the Rural Maryland Foundation, included Aspire 2.0 -a brief film highlighting innovative agriculture, aquaculture, forestry, and other economic development projects currently taking place in the 18 rural counties. The film is currently being edited.

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Davis gave the Executive Director's report which included the staff activity logs provided in the meeting handouts.

Rural Impact Awards

The Rural Community Development Award was established to recognize a program, project, or organization that substantially improves the quality of life in at least one rural community. Five awards were presented during the meeting to the following:

- Outstanding Rural Community Development Award:
 - **Evergreen Heritage Center**, Award presented to Janice Greene, Founder and Director of the Evergreen Heritage Center Foundation
 - **Sudlersville Laundromat**, Award accepted by members of the community's committee, Francis Kinnamon, Pam Wise, Bill Faust and Ira Russell.
- Outstanding Rural Volunteer Award: **Mr. Robert "Bob" Arnold** of Arnold Farms
- Outstanding Rural Economic Development Award: **Cecil County Office of Economic Development**, award accepted Sandra Edwards, Economic Development Manager; Richard Starr, Economic Development Coordinator; and Terri Springel, Administrative Assistant.
- Rural Champion Award: **Delegate Sheree Sample-Hughes**
- Rural Legacy Award: **Senator Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.**, award accepted by Chelsea Clute with the College of Southern Maryland.

Awardees received a personalized clock and the College of Southern Maryland received a donation of \$2,500 for the Thomas V. Mike Miller Jr. Endowed Scholarship Fund. All awardees received a Senate Proclamation, presented by Scott Travers, Regional Director for the Office of Senator Chris Van Hollan.

Nominative Committee

Greg Padgham, Chair of the Nominating Committee reported on new Board members and a motion to approve these members and officers; Errol Mattox seconded. 2020 Board Slate and Officers were approved.

New Officers include the following:

New Officer	Position
John Hartline	Chair
Erroll Mattow	First Vice Chair
Greg Padgham	2 nd Vice Chair
Scott Warner	Immediate Past Chair
Chris Benzing	Nominative Committee Chair

New Board Members include the following:

New Board Member	Affiliation
Dr. Heidi Anderson	President, University of Maryland Eastern Shore
Elizabeth Carven	Acting Director for Business Retention, Expansion & Strategic Rural Development
Elizabeth Chung	Executive Director, Asian American Center of Frederick
Jean Fabi	Queen Anne's County Economic Development Manager
Leslie Hart	Washington County Business Development Specialist Agriculture
Beth Hill	Maryland Forest Association Executive Director
Holly Porter	Executive Director, Delmarva Poultry Industry, Inc.
Sarah Seitz	Director, State Office of Rural Health
Bill Valentine	Former Commissioner from Allegany County

New Business

Introduction of new Board Chair, John Hartline

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:00pm.

Next meeting scheduled for 12pm to 2pm on January 31, 2020 at the Presidents Conference Center West, Miller Senate Office Building, located at 11 Bladen Street, Annapolis, Maryland